GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3076
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR RAILWAY PROJECTS
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways carry out the proposed projects of various kinds before actually making the payment of compensation to land owners whose land was acquired;

(b) if so, whether this system has led to many complications like hampering of ongoing works on account of the land owners protests;

(c) whether the same problems cropped up with regard to the doubling works in Hubli Division, S.W.R. Karnataka and as well as near Bellary in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps taken by Railways in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(DR. R. VELU)

(a) to (e): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3076 BY SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.12.2008 REGARDING ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR RAILWAY PROJECTS.

(a): The land is normally acquired by the State Governments and handed over to the Railways after following due process of acquisition. Railways make the payment to the State Governments as per their demand and compensation is paid to the land owners by the State Governments directly. There are instances of railways carrying out project works before actual payment to the land owners by the State Government authorities as it may take time to settle the compensation cases.

(b): There have been cases where there were protests from the land owners over inadequate compensation leading to disruption of ongoing works.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. There have been few cases of land owners insisting on compensation and starting works thereafter

In Hubli-Hebsur doubling, the preliminary work is such as soil investigation was started in May, 2008. But land owners protested at site and so the works were taken up in hand only after the land was handed over to Railways on 01.08.08. However, compensation is yet to be paid to land owners as State Revenue Authorities have not finalized the compensation award. Similarly in Daddi Kamalpur and Ramapur villages, adjoining Dharwad-Kambarganvi doubling project, there were protests by the land owners and on counseling by Railway authorities, issues were resolved.

(e) Regular meeting with State authorities are held at appropriate level to sort out pending cases of land acquisition including compensation due to the land owners.